GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1119
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2015
Revised Guidelines for Adoption of Children
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Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

the number of children adopted by the Indian and Foreigners/Non-Resident Indians during each of the last three years and the current year along with the reasons for declining adoption, if any;
(b) whether the Government has received complaints regarding cumbersome formalities for adoption of children and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government to simplify the procedure;
(c) whether the Government has recently notified revised guidelines for adoption of children and if so, the details and salient features thereof;
(d) whether the Government has conducted or proposes to conduct workshops to enable agencies to understand the revised guidelines for adoption and if so, the details thereof;
(e) whether the Government has taken note of objections by various sections against certain provisions in the revised guidelines and voluntarily given up of their recognised status by many charity adoption homes and NGOs including Missionaries of Charity; and
(f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI)

(a): The number of children adopted by the Indian and Foreigners/Non-Resident Indians during each of the last three years and the current year is placed as under:

Period	In-country adoption	Inter-country adoption
2012-2013(April 2012- March,2013)	4694	308
2013-2014(April 2013- March,2014)	3924	430
2014-2015(April 2014- March,2015)	3988	374
2015-2016(April 2015- Sept 2015)	1513	237

The adoption figures have more or less remained stable during the above mentioned period.
(b) & (c): Prior to notification of 'Guidelines Governing Adoption of Children 2015', Government had received complaints/suggestions related to registration process, delays at the level of Child Welfare Committee (CWC), at the level of adoption agencies for conducting home study reports etc. Some of the salient features of the new adoption guidelines include provisions for linking the orphan/abandoned/surrendered children of all Child Care Institutions (CCIs) to the adoption system, making the entire adoption process online, treating NRI prospective adoptive parents at par with the domestic prospective adoptive parents, reducing the timeframe for completion of Home Study Report from two months to one month. All Specialised Adoption Agencies (SAA) are authorised both for in-country and inter-country adoption. This will enable the special needs and older children in such agencies (who rarely go in domestic adoptions) to find suitable family through inter- country adoption.
(d): Yes, till date, about twenty orientations and capacity building programmes have already been undertaken for adoption agencies and other stakeholders by Central Adoption Resource Authority in association with State Governments after notification of Guidelines in July 2015.
(e) & (f): The Missionaries of Charity, has communicated to the Central Adoption Resource Authority that they have decided to suppress all of their adoption centres in India due to their inability to comply with the new Guidelines Governing Adoption of Children, 2015, as there are other agencies who are doing the same work in the locations where they have their centres. Under the provisions of Section 41(4) of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000, the State Government recognises adoption agencies. As such, the State Government is appropriate authority for taking any action.

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